

MINUTES OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank S. Bacio
John A. Hammargren
Carl E. Moore
Maxine B. Russell

Absent

Vito Cannella

Others Present

Lee Millen, Senior Staff,
Sherry Scates, Commission Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 20, 2005

.Page 2, Chair's Report should read: "Chair Montano reported that
Thomas ~~Sign~~ Saegz has...."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 27, 2005

Page 3, Probation Department, 4th sentence should read:
"...approximately 80 in-field Deputy ~~Patrol~~ Probation Officers, ..."

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano reported that following his surgery, Commissioner Cannella is doing very well. The Commissioners sent their good wishes to him for a speedy recovery.

Chair Montano advised that the response packet from Metropolitan State Hospital was received. Commissioners discussed the discrepancies between these responses to Chair Montano's questions and the problems reported recently in the news and those reported to the Commission by resident's parents. Among the main concerns are: the apparent lack of follow-up with educational issues; and non-documented incidents, as reported to the Commission. Commissioner Russell advised that she was notified by a County Social Worker that they must now make an appointment to see their clients, which she feels is a warning sign that things are not as they should be. Commissioner Hammargren will alert his Public Safety contacts in the Sheriff's Department.

Chair Montano reported that she will be attending services for Captain Hillman's young niece, Loren Paige Marcus, who passed away July 30th due to cancer.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported that the balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$1,142.02.

STAFF REPORT

Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, reported on the following:

- The missing conference room chair has been returned and all new chairs are accounted for;
- The memo from the Auditor-Controller's office advising of the County's mileage stipend increase was distributed;
- The contact information for the County's Toy Loan Program locations was distributed;
- The new copier and fax machines have been installed; and
- After weeks of no response to our inquiries, William Sias, County Counsel, advised that he was replaced as the Commission's liaison on July 1st by Deputy County Counsel, Jennifer Lehman, of Law Enforcement Division. Ms. Scates advised that she has contacted Ms. Lehman and discussed the Commission's outstanding issues.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Montano briefly reviewed the Auditor-Controller's Program Monitory Report for the Penny Lane Group Homes.

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

LAC & USC Medical Center/13th Floor Jail Facility

Chair Montano inspected this facility on August 1st and gave a rating of **Satisfactory**. Area of concern: facility staff reported that their only concern was the shortage of nurses. Chair Montano noted that this facility has improved since the Commission's previous inspections.

Renaissance Unlimited I- #92-2

Chair Montano inspected this facility on August 2nd and gave a rating of **Needs Improvement**. Areas of concern: upstairs hall carpet was torn; quick release bars on two bedroom windows are not working; and house rules and disaster plan need to be posted.

Project Six/Burbank III - #91-3

Vice Chair Stathatos inspected this facility on August 1st and gave a rating of **Excellent** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Vice Chair Stathatos noted that this facility was recently remodeled and updated.

Pacific Lodge Boys Home - #84-1

Vice Chair Stathatos inspected this facility on July 28th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Vice Chair Stathatos noted that an "outcomes" case manager has been hired to tract and assist graduates and the run-a-ways of the facility. A substance abuse director has also joined their staff.

Pennacle Foundation/Carson - #84-2

Commissioners Bacio and Moore visited this facility on August 2nd and found no one at home; no inspection was conducted.

Eastlake Juvenile Court

Commissioner Bacio inspected this facility on July 28th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory**. Areas of concern: the floor needs to be resurfaced; Dept. 202 needs surveillance cameras due to the very long corridor; and the air conditioning is quite old and needs constant maintenance.

Penny Lane VI - #87-1

Commissioner Russell inspected this facility on August 1st and gave a rating of **Satisfactory**. Areas of concern: facility staff advised that 3 of the 6 girls were AWOL; and Commissioner Russell was advised by the director

that she “could not inspect the other Penny Lane facilities without an appointment.”

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Montano assigned inspection duties to Commissioners for the following week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates
Commission Staff